



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 16 June 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that a Chinese submarine's reported collision last week with an underwater sonar apparatus towed by a U.S. destroyer in the South China Sea was likely an accident, the China Daily said Monday. (See item [31](#))
- According to DarkReading, an indictment was unsealed on June 12 against three individuals who allegedly hacked into the telephone systems of large corporations and entities in the United States and abroad and sold information about the compromised telephone systems to Pakistani nationals residing in Italy. The losses in the case exceeded \$55 million. (See item [40](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *June 15, State* – (South Carolina) **Utilities to tweet if hurricane hits.** If a hurricane hits South Carolina this summer, some utilities will use Twitter to update customers about power outages and safety messages. "If the power goes out, and their cell phone is still

charged up, Twitter gives us the opportunity to share information with customers,” said an employee of Charlotte-based Duke Energy, which serves 600,000 customers in South Carolina. Cell phones could be a vital communication link if a storm causes widespread power outages, darkens TV stations, and disrupts land-line telephone service, the utilities added. A check with other power companies found that Progress Energy and State-operated Santee Cooper plan to incorporate Twitter into their public communications arsenal if a hurricane impacts their South Carolina service areas. Florida-based Progress serves about 200,000 customers in the Pee Dee region, while Santee Cooper has 155,000 customers in three coastal counties, and provides juice for 625,000 more customers of the state’s 20 electric cooperatives. South Carolina Electric & Gas Co., which powers 652,000 homes and businesses, is studying the possibility of using Twitter, a spokesman said.

Source: <http://www.thestate.com/local/story/827242.html>

2. *June 15, Tulsa Native American Times* – (Nevada) **Edison to decommission coal-fired Nev. power plant.** The owners of the shuttered Mohave Generating Station in Laughlin, Nevada, said on June 10 that they will decommission the coal-fired power plant that once supplied electricity to 1.5 million homes. Southern California Edison operated the 1,580-megawatt plant since it came on line in 1971, and the company owned 56 percent of the facility on the Colorado River. Edison shut down the plant in 2006 because it needed pollution-control upgrades to comply with a 1999 Clean Air Act settlement, a new water supply and pipeline upgrades costing \$1.1 billion. The plant’s owners said they will decommission the plant and remove the generating facility from the 2,470-acre site. The dismantling is expected to start later this year and take about two years and \$30 million to complete. Transmission lines and a switchyard will remain on site. The plant’s operating permits will be terminated next year. Without a buyer for the plant, an Edison spokesman said the utility was left with two options — to decommission the plant and either sell the property or construct a renewable energy project. “The owners have concluded that selling the plant is not a viable option,” the spokesman said. Edison has studied the property, its topography and the climate and found that portions of the site could be used to generate solar power, but more detailed assessments are needed before a decision is made, the spokesman said.

Source:

http://nativetimes.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1973&Itemid=&Itemid=32

3. *June 15, Bloomberg* – (International) **Nigerian rebels say they destroyed Chevron’s facility.** Nigerian rebels said they destroyed the Abiteye oil-pumping station run by Chevron Corp. in the Niger River delta, in the third attack on the company’s facilities in the past three days. The raid took place at about 2 a.m. local time and “resulted in a massive fire outbreak that is consuming the entire facility,” the spokesman of the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) said on June 15 in an e-mailed statement. MEND aims to destroy the entire infrastructure of Africa’s biggest oil industry, he said. MEND also claimed it destroyed facilities at Chevron’s Makaraba and Utonana oil-pumping stations in the past three days.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=a475wlQ78gz0>

4. *June 15, Bloomberg* – (Texas) **ConocoPhillips reports ‘process upset’ at Borger Oil Refinery.** ConocoPhillips, the second-largest U.S. oil processor, reported a “process upset” at its refinery in Borger, Texas. The fault caused the release of an estimated 500 pounds of sulfur dioxide, ConocoPhillips said in a filing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The filing did not provide more details on the incident. The Borger refinery has capacity to process 152,000 barrels of oil a day, according to the U.S. Energy Department.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=adsCcvLuXG5M>
5. *June 12, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Power plant releases ash cloud into air.** Four Corners Power Plant operators blame equipment failure for a cloud of black ash released by the coal-fired power plant on June 9. A plant spokesman said it is not clear how much ash was released. He said equipment designed to retain it unexpectedly shut down, sending particulate ash — a fine powder made up of pulverized coal — into the air around the plant in northwestern New Mexico at Fruitland. He said the problem was quickly resolved. He said a report would be sent to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The ash came from one of the plant’s five units, which he said was taken out of service afterward. The 2,000-megawatt plant is operated by Arizona Public Service Co.
Source:
http://www.durangoherald.com/sections/News/2009/06/12/Power_plant_releases_ash_cloud_into_air/
6. *June 12, Platts* – (Illinois) **White House revives FutureGen plant, will build it in Illinois.** The U.S. Energy Secretary on June 12 said that his agency has reached an agreement with a group of coal producers, electric utilities and other companies to build a 275-MW coal-fired power plant equipped with carbon capture and storage technology in Mattoon, Illinois. The announcement marks a reversal of a January 2008 decision by the former Presidential Administration to scrap the FutureGen project, which was designed to test and demonstrate CCS technology on a commercial scale. FutureGen is a public-private partnership between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and coal, utilities and other companies. Under the contract, DOE would cover 76 percent of the cost of the project, while the alliance pays 24 percent of the expense. DOE estimates its cost at \$1.073 billion, \$1 billion of which would come from a major economic stimulus law enacted in February.
Source:
<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/6407582.xml?sub=Coal&p=Coal/News&?undefined&undefined>
7. *June 12, Pratt Tribune* – (Kansas) **Cracks appear in Flat Ridge turbines.** Just three months after starting electrical production, the blades on the wind turbines at the Flat Ridge Wind Farm in Barber County, Kansas are developing small surface cracks. Clipper Windpower of Carpinteria, California provides the wind turbines that are produced by another manufacturer. The problem was discovered at another Clipper project site, said the director of global communications for Clipper Windpower. The cracks are easily repairable and do not pose a safety issue, she said. The cracks are a

result of a manufacturing defect. The manufacturer's warrantee will cover the repairs, said the senior communications representative for Westar that owns half the units. All 40 generators at Flat Ridge are being inspected. Clipper identified the problem during a root cause analysis, the manufacturing problem was corrected, and the defective blades were quickly fixed in the field at the original site. Those turbines will be shut down until repairs can be made. A big crane will arrive at the site towards the end of June. The entire repair process is expected to take about three months. The cracks have not affected output at the farm.

Source: <http://www.pratttribune.com/homepage/x862905726>

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Chemical Industry Sector

8. *June 12, News & Observer* – (North Carolina) **Stolen semi full of ammonium nitrate stopped in Kenly.** The North Carolina State Highway Patrol and Homeland Security officials have arrested a man who they say stole a tractor trailer filled with ammonium nitrate. The truck was stopped at a gas station off Interstate 95 in Kenly in Johnston County on June 12, said a sergeant with the Highway Patrol. Authorities have arrested the man, of Carrollton, Ohio, and charged him with possession of a stolen vehicle and resisting arrest. He is in the Johnston County jail, the sergeant said. The 18-wheeler was stolen in Orville, Ohio. The sergeant did not know how it was stolen. The truck was carrying an undisclosed amount of the chemical compound ammonium nitrate, which is commonly used as a fertilizer in farming.

Source: <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/story/1566792.html>

9. *June 12, KRIV 26 Houston* – (Texas) **Chemical truck falls over in Channelview.** Part of an east Harris County neighborhood was blocked off on June 12 when a tanker truck fell on its side. It is believed the truck was carrying ethylene when it wrecked at the intersection of Northshore at Lakeside. Aerial views of the scene did not indicate any of the chemical leaked, and a second tanker truck was brought in to transport the gas. The cause of the crash is not known. No serious injuries were reported.

Source: http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/traffic/090612_channelview_truck_side

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

10. *June 15, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **New nuclear plants must withstand aircraft crash.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) published a final rule in the Federal Register Friday to require all new nuclear power reactors to design their facilities to withstand the impact of a large airplane. Applicants for licenses to the NRC to operate nuclear power reactors must “use realistic analyses to identify and incorporate design features and functional capabilities to show, with reduced use of operator actions, that either the reactor core remains cooled or the containment remains intact, and either

spent fuel cooling or spent fuel pool integrity is maintained” after a large commercial aircraft strikes the facility, the rule said. The final rule comes after years of debate as to the impact of an airplane crash into a nuclear facility in the fashion of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. The “aircraft impact rule” requires all applicants seeking new construction permits, new operating licenses, new design certifications, renewal of design certifications, and others to demonstrate their designs would prevent exposure of radioactive material to the public or the environment after an airplane crash. The NRC rule imposes little burden on existing nuclear power points, the agency insisted. It found existing designs of current operations coupled with security program actions to provide enough protection to mitigate any threat to public health in the event of an aircraft impact. Previous NRC rules had required some of these security measures, which have brought these facilities to an acceptable level of protection.

Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/8939/128/>

11. *June 15, Lancaster Online* – (Pennsylvania) **NRC alleges 2 violations at Peach Bottom.** A former reactor operator at the Peach Bottom nuclear plant deliberately failed to report a drunk-driving arrest, according to an investigation by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A second apparent violation of nuclear requirements, the NRC said a former maintenance supervisor at the plant who was given unescorted access privileges failed to report that he had been dishonorably discharged from the military. A letter noting the apparent violations was sent to Peach Bottom owner Exelon on June 5. Both alleged violations followed probes by the NRC’s Office of Investigations. In the investigation of the reactor operator, the NRC said it was determined the operator deliberately failed to promptly report his drunk-driving arrest and criminal charges as required. The man reported the incident to Exelon six months later after reading an article in a Peach Bottom internal newsletter that defined an arrest and described the responsibility of employees to report such events. Both men are no longer employees at Peach Bottom.

Source: <http://articles.lancasteronline.com/local/4/238842>

12. *June 15, Lower Hudson Valley News* – (New York) **Nuclear plant seeks ok to move uranium.** Indian Point officials want to shuffle some of their used uranium fuels rods between nuclear reactors to create storage space, but federal regulators say they will need to see more details before they will approve such a plan. “This has not been done with any frequency in the United States,” said a NRC spokesman. “So a lot of questions need to be answered. It is unusual and that’s why it is going to take a great deal of study.” A meeting is set at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s Maryland headquarters June 15 to go over details of the proposal, which has not officially been submitted, the NRC spokesman said. Indian Point technically would be seeking a license amendment, which can take two years to complete and could involve public hearings, but the plant’s owner, Entergy Nuclear, wants a fast-track version that would allow the move to be completed before a refueling outage in early 2011. Local emergency officials say they are always wary about moving radioactive uranium, regardless of the regulations in place.

Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/2009906150324>

Critical Manufacturing Sector

13. *June 14, Des Moines Register* – (Wisconsin) **Factory fire damage unknown in Kellogg.** A June 13 fire at a Kellogg factory caused thousands of dollars in damages, according to the Kellogg fire department. The fire burned a 30-by 60-foot section of a Midwest Manufacturing building, said the deputy chief for the department. Numerous area fire departments were called to the scene. Fire departments were able to contain the flames to one building, but the deputy did not know exactly how much damage was done, though the roof would likely need to be replaced. The fire is not suspicious and they will know more about the cause and the total cost of the damage on June 15. Midwest Manufacturing makes parts for engines.
Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20090614/NEWS/90614003/-1/SPORTS12>
14. *June 13, WANE 15 Fort Wayne* – (Indiana) **20 employees evacuated from fire.** Twenty people had to be evacuated from Superior Essex after the building caught on fire. According to the Fort Wayne Fire Department, around 6:30 p.m. on June 12, Fort Wayne fire fighters arrived at the Superior Essex Warehouse to find heavy smoke coming from the building. About 25 feet from the floor, the sprinkler system was going off and held the fire under control until FWFD crews could take over. It took crews about an hour to put out the fire. Upon investigation, FWFD found fire in a shelf storing wire spools.
Source: http://www.wane.com/dpp/news/local/local_wane_fw_superior_essex_fire_200906131228
15. *June 12, San Jose Mercury News* – (California) **Fire crews investigating smoke at Hitachi plant in San Jose.** San Jose fire crews were investigating a report of smoke smoldering at the Hitachi plant. At about 11:05 p.m., on June 11, San Jose fire received a report of a transformer blowing up inside a building at the plant, the San Jose fire senior dispatcher said. He said the smoke was contained to the building and had not erupted into a fire. The building was evacuated and no one was injured.
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12576227

For another story, see item [7](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

16. *June 15, Globe Newswire* – (Maryland) **Northrop Grumman completes successful ground based fighter radar demonstration.** Northrop Grumman Corporation has successfully demonstrated the Defense Department's new Ground Based Fighter Radar (GBFR), a multi-mission ground tactical radar designed to provide on-the-move air defense capability to the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps. The demonstration took

place recently at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Aberdeen, Maryland. Northrop Grumman was awarded the GBFR contract by the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. The objective of GBFR was to package a proven airborne radar into a compact, lightweight ground configuration operating on a single HMMWV. In this configuration, the radar provides 360-degree coverage while the vehicle is moving. The radar employs an adaptation of active electronically scanned array (AESA) technology from airborne platforms as a basis for its operation. GBFR's compact, lightweight configuration makes it easily deployable from a variety of expeditionary platforms providing the rapid transport capability required for today's battlespace.

Source: <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/news.html?d=167085>

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Banking and Finance Sector

17. *June 12, WVIR 29 Charlottesville* – (Virginia) **Credit Union users target of text scam.** The UVA Credit Union is warning customers about a text message scam targeting their accounts. Credit union officials say the bogus text message claims that a member's debit card has been blocked and that they need to call a phone number to verify their information. If any members have been hit by this scam and think that their private information may now be at risk, they are asked to call the credit union.

Source: <http://www.nbc29.com/Global/story.asp?S=10524130>

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Transportation Sector

18. *June 13, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **2 workers die in fall from Huey P. Long Bridge.** Two bridge construction workers fell 75 feet to their deaths when the framework of steel reinforcement rods on which they were working gave way, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office said. A sheriff's office spokesman said preliminary reports indicate they were 75 to 85 feet above land when "the rebar cage they were working on gave way." A Louisiana Department of Transportation spokesman said all steel and iron work on the bridge was suspended for a safety audit by his department. He said the men worked for the joint venture Kiewit/Massman/Traylor Construction, which was hired for work on the bridge's approaches and ramps. He would not comment about the cause of the accident. The project, planned for completion in 2013, will widen the 74-year-old bridge from two 9-foot lanes with no shoulders to three 11-foot lanes with a 2-foot inside shoulder and an 8-foot outside shoulder.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/tx/6477255.html>

19. *June 13, KUSA 9 Denver* – (Colorado) **Mishap on airport runway leaves plane stuck in mud.** An Allegiant Air flight with 149 passengers onboard landed safely June 12 but missed a turn on the runway at the Fort Collins/Loveland Municipal Airport and got stuck in muddy ground. The airport manager said there were no injuries and no damage to the aircraft, an MD83, arriving from Las Vegas mid-morning. By mid-afternoon, the

plane was pulled back to the runway, inspected and cleared for a return flight to Las Vegas, a Loveland fire marshal said.

Source: <http://www.coloradoan.com/article/20090613/LOVELAND01/306130008>

20. *June 12, Associated Press* – (New York) **NYC to gas 2,000 geese in bid to protect aircraft.** New York City plans to trap and gas as many as 2,000 Canada geese over the next few weeks in an attempt to avoid the type of collision that caused an airliner to ditch in the Hudson River last winter. The hunt will take place on dozens of city properties within five miles of Kennedy and LaGuardia airports. Aviation officials have culled bird flocks on airport property for years, but this will mark a major expansion of the effort into other parts of the city. Some 40 public parks will be swept free of geese, including Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in Queens. The roundup, carried out by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is being timed with the molting season, when the geese cannot fly. It is scheduled to begin within a week.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D98P4M1G0.htm>

For more stories, see items [21](#), [25](#), and [31](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

21. *June 13, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **UPS truck with suspicious box overturns on interstate.** An Arkansas State Police spokesman says a UPS truck carrying a small package marked that it had explosives inside has overturned on Interstate 30 on the outskirts of Little Rock. A police spokesman says firefighters are trying to determine what is inside the box. The spokesman says UPS is checking its records to determine what is inside of the box.

Source:

<http://www.nwaonline.net/articles/2009/06/13/news/061409arovertunedtruck.txt>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

22. *June 14, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **Natural-gas leak linked to explosion.** An explosion that killed three workers at the ConAgra Slim Jim snack plant in Garner, North Carolina on June 8, was caused by a natural-gas leak that ignited in a room housing vacuum pumps for sealing the snacks, authorities said on June 13. It will now be up to state and federal workplace investigators to determine how the leak happened and what caused it to ignite, an agent with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). ATF agents believe that the gas was sparked by a piece of equipment such as a fan motor or thermostat, but another cause, such as static electricity, could not be ruled out, said the agent. Such electrical equipment would be capable of igniting natural gas even if it were operating normally, he added. The ATF concluded that the explosion was an accident and closed its criminal investigation. The explosion ripped through the 500,000-square-foot plant in Garner while 300 people were

at work. Officials said that 38 employees were injured, four of them suffering critical burns. ConAgra plans to assist the state Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the U.S. Chemical Safety Board as they take over the investigation, company spokesman said. The company has no timetable on when the plant could be reopened, the spokesman added.

Source: <http://www2.morganton.com/content/2009/jun/14/natural-gas-leak-linked-to-explosion/>

23. *June 14, Los Angeles Fire Department News and Information* – (California) **Hazmat scare in cold storage facility.** On June 14 at 6:16 a.m., four Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters responded to a HAZ-MAT call in the Little Tokyo area of Los Angeles. Firefighters arrived to discover a leak causing the spill of an unknown substance in a large cold storage facility. Further investigation revealed several gallons of ammonia had spilled inside the structure from a utility room. Dozens of people inside the building were evacuated as a precaution. Only one onsite manager was directly affected by the spill, with minor injury. One firefighter suffered a non life threatening exposure injury and was transported to area hospital for observation. The cause and investigation of this incident was turned over to Los Angeles County Health Haz-Mat.

Source: <http://lafd.blogspot.com/2009/06/haz-mat-scare-in-cold-storage-facility.html>

24. *June 14, KCTV 5 Kansas City* – (Missouri) **Horses quarantined in Raytown: potentially fatal disease confirmed at Raytown Equestrian Park.** Missouri State agriculture officials have issued a quarantine order for the Raytown Equestrian Park. A seven-year-old quarter horse stabled at the facility tested positive for equine piroplasmiasis, a potentially fatal disease, officials said. It is of no danger to humans, officials said. The infected horse was admitted to a Missouri animal hospital earlier this month. On June 6, the entire Raytown facility, which holds more than 60 horses, was quarantined. On June 9, other horses there were examined. On June 10, the original horse was confirmed to have the disease. Missouri State agriculture officials will visit the facility on June 16 to investigate. In the meantime, no horses may come or go from this facility.

Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/19747361/detail.html>

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Water Sector

25. *June 15, WCBS 2 New York* – (New York) **Massive water main break floods Bronx neighborhood.** A Bronx neighborhood woke to a flood of water the morning of June 14 after a massive water main burst, sending thousands of gallons of water into area streets and businesses. In the early morning hours, the corner of 231st Street and Broadway burst open and water came gushing out. A water main ruptured sending 10,000 gallons of water a minute up and onto the street. Four blocks had to be closed as crews worked to shut off the water that crept into businesses. It took more than 3 hours, but Department of Environmental Protection workers were finally able to close the valves and stop the water — but moments later, a section of 231st Street collapsed. As soon as the water was shut off, the clean up began up and down Broadway, as well as in the

basements of businesses that were damaged. Fire fighters cut open locks and found close to a foot of water inside some basements. The cause of the water main break is being investigated. Four blocks were still closed as of June 14. Water has been restored, and officials are advising residents that it is safe to drink.

Source: <http://wcbstv.com/topstories/water.main.break.2.1044397.html>

26. *June 14, Eagle Tribune* – (Massachusetts) **Mercury from 2005 spill left in Lawrence pumping station.** Hazardous waste from a mercury spill that occurred three and a half years ago has been stored in a Mount Vernon pumping station, near Lawrence, posing a potential threat to the residential neighborhood. Two sealed 55-gallon drums, one marked both “Hazardous Waste” and “Mercury,” and two 5-gallon buckets also marked “Mercury” were found in the Water Department pumping station on South Street, off Route 28 near the Andover town line. After an inspection on the morning of June 11, the fire department said the waste should be removed as soon as possible. All city workers were barred from entering the pumping station until it is tested for contamination, and the building was marked with an “X” sign to indicate it was dangerous to enter. The public works director who oversees the water department, said he was unaware the hazardous waste was inside the pumping station until a supervisor told him about the inspection. The waste will be removed and properly disposed of “as soon as we get a hauler,” he said, noting the South Street station was taken out of service 20 years ago. The city planner said whether it was an active pump station or not, the building “is not a site meant for the long-term storage of hazard material.”

Source: http://www.eagletribune.com/punews/local_story_165010100.html

27. *June 14, Jackson County Floridan* – (Florida) **Fire hits Sneads treatment plant.** The town of Sneads, Florida, almost had a major disaster when the town’s wastewater plant caught fire. Town officials want to make sure there are not any more close calls. On June 14, the compressor at the treatment plant ignited. The cause is still being investigated by the fire marshal. “Luckily most of the plant is metal so there weren’t many flames, but it was smoldering and extremely hot. The metal definitely could have melted,” the town manager said. Thanks to lucky timing, the town’s police chief was passing the plant and spotted the smoke bellowing from the plant. He immediately called it in, and the volunteer fire department responded within minutes. The fire department was able to contain the fire to the one compressor and extinguish the blaze before it caused major damage. The town plans to purchase a \$3,000 monitoring system. The system not only monitors additional aspects of the plant not currently covered, but also provides cell phone alerts if there are any abnormal readings. Town staff members can then remotely shut down parts of the plant, or the entire plant.

Source:

http://www.jcfloridan.com/jcf/news/local/article/fire_hits_sneads_treatment_plant/77013/

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

28. *June 15, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Lanham hospital fined for not reporting**

errors. Doctors Community Hospital in Prince George's County has been fined by Maryland health regulators after failing to notify them that a patient had died and that at least seven others suffered serious harm last year as a result of mistakes by the medical staff. The 185-bed medical surgical hospital in Lanham, Maryland, paid the \$30,000 fine last month for violating a Maryland law that requires hospitals to report serious medical errors. State officials agreed to reduce a proposed penalty of \$95,000 as long as the hospital uses the remaining \$65,000 to develop a patient safety program. A top state regulator described Doctors' system of reporting errors as "seriously deficient" because of understaffing, a lack of attention to what caused patients to be injured or to die, and the absence of a system to prevent recurrences.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/06/14/AR2009061402421.html?hpid=moreheadlines>

29. *June 15, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts; National) **Flu onset exposed supply problems.** The arrival of swine flu in the United States exposed gaps in the supply chain that delivers medication, masks, and even testing swabs to hospitals and doctors' offices — shortcomings that could prove vastly more worrisome if a deadlier strain returns in the fall, officials say. In Massachusetts, where the state health agency had to tap its emergency cache of flu-relief pills to supplement dwindling private supplies, the governor is asking the Legislature to spend \$1 million more to bolster the state stockpile, a request that is pending. "We have identified different shortcomings, gaps, weaknesses, possibly flawed or off-target planning assumptions that need to be inventoried and effectively addressed over the next several months," the chief program officer for public health practice at the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials said. His association later this month will convene five dozen health officers, including Massachusetts' public health commissioner, to analyze the handling of swine flu. The supply shortages tended to be localized, Massachusetts health authorities said, but they reflected the vagaries of the fragile just-in-time economy that provides medical goods on a daily, as-needed basis.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/06/15/swine_flu_arrival_overwhelmed_stockpile_of_medical_supplies/?page=full

30. *June 14, Associated Press* – (National) **Hearing to air VA mistakes with hospital equipment.** A congressional panel is pressing the Department of Veterans Affairs to disclose on Tuesday whether non-sterile equipment that may have exposed 10,000 veterans to HIV and other infections was isolated to three Southeast hospitals or is part of a wider problem. The subcommittee scheduled the hearing in Washington to discuss mistakes involving endoscopic equipment used for colonoscopies and other procedures at its hospitals in Miami, Florida, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and Augusta, Georgia with top agency officials and to receive a yet-unreleased report by the VA's inspector general. The VA since February has been warning about 10,000 former patients, some who had colonoscopies as long ago as 2003, to get blood tests for HIV and hepatitis.

Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5h7Q_BB0OpsIswSFhXtUtnrBRI5UgD98QL6AG0

Government Facilities Sector

31. *June 15, Associated Press* – (International) **Report: Sub, sonar collision accidental.** A state-run newspaper said Monday that a Chinese submarine's reported collision last week with an underwater sonar apparatus towed by a U.S. destroyer in the South China Sea was likely an accident. The official China Daily cited Chinese military experts as saying that the submarine's collision with the sonar array connected to the USS John S. McCain probably occurred due to a misjudgment of distance. No injuries were reported and the extent of damage to the sonar array was not immediately known. A senior researcher with the People's Liberation Army's Navy Equipment Research Center said the American destroyer appeared to have failed to detect the submarine, while the Chinese vessel set its distance from the McCain assuming it was not carrying sonar arrays, according to the paper. A Pacific Fleet spokesman said Sunday that the multifunction sonar array attached to the USS John S. McCain was damaged Wednesday, but did not say how the damage occurred. "All we know is that the towed array was damaged," the spokesman said. CNN reported that the incident occurred near Subic Bay, off the coast of the Philippines. The network cited unidentified U.S. military officials as calling it an "inadvertent encounter" and that the Navy did not believe it was a deliberate act of Chinese harassment. The CNN report said the incident occurred Thursday.

Source:

http://www.wavy.com/dpp/news/military/military_ap_beijing_ReportSubsonarcollisionaccidental_20090615

32. *June 15, Newsroom Solutions* – (National) **Connecticut man arrested for threatening Obama.** A Connecticut man has been arrested after he allegedly made a threat against the U.S. President. Police say the 39-year-old suspect pulled up to an Enfield auto dealership where a film crew was shooting and spoke with people there. During the conversation, the suspect allegedly made comments about the President, saying that somebody should kill him. The people he spoke to notified police, and he was arrested on Saturday, charged with inciting injury to a person and breach of peace. While in custody, the suspect was questioned by the U.S. Secret Service.

Source: <http://mystateline.com/content/fulltext/?cid=75041>

33. *June 13, Associated Press* – (International) **Official indicted for secrets to China.** A Pentagon official initially accused of unknowingly supplying secrets to China had actually been aware for some time that he was dealing with an agent for Beijing, according to a new indictment issued Thursday. Initial charges last month against the suspect suggested that he was sucked into a "false flag" operation — that is, he disclosed secrets to an agent he thought worked for Taiwan who was actually working for China. Thursday's indictment, though, said he had been aware for roughly a decade that the agent had deep ties to the regime in Beijing. At times, the suspect even bypassed his handler and directly gave information to the Chinese government, according to the indictment. The suspect, a 62 year-old, who held top secret clearances as deputy director of the Washington liaison office for U.S. Pacific Command, last month became the

second Pentagon official charged with giving classified documents to a Taiwanese native who is a naturalized U.S. citizen. The Taiwanese native, a New Orleans furniture salesman, pleaded guilty to spying for Beijing and was sentenced last year to nearly 16 years in prison. The suspect's lawyer said his client denies the allegations.

Source: <http://www.military.com/news/article/official-indicted-for-secrets-to-china.html?ESRC=topstories.RSS>

34. *June 12, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Mortar shells force evacuation of city hall in Missouri.** The Bonne Terre city hall was evacuated Friday after a resident found mortar shells and took them in for inspection. City hall and a two-block radius were evacuated after a man found mortar shells while cleaning a house. He took the shells in for city officials to inspect. Those officials were not sure if the mortars were live, and an evacuation was ordered as a precaution. Ammunition experts from Fort Leonard Wood were being brought in to determine whether the mortars were a danger.

Source: http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/1249072.html

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Emergency Services Sector

35. *June 15, Salt Lake City Deseret News* – (Utah) **Technology to help 911 dispatchers communicate.** Decade-old communications issues between the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office and Valley Emergency Communications Center (VECC) in Utah appear to finally be coming to a close. In a news conference June 10, VECC leaders and the sheriff's office announced the launch of a partnership between the two dispatch centers through the use of technology that will enhance the ability of both centers to monitor their emergency operations. Both VECC and the county believe that the new technology, which allows a bridge between the two communications centers, will have a significant positive impact on the residents of Salt Lake County. Prior to the development of the system, communication between the two centers, for all intents and purposes, was isolated to phone and radio communication only.

Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705309794/Technology-to-help-911-dispatchers-communicate.html>

36. *June 14, Springfield News Sun* – (Ohio) **Mobile 911 command center set to roll.** The Clark County, Ohio, sheriff's office now has a 911 command center on wheels, made possible by part of the taxes on cell phone plans. The black SUV was recently outfitted with a laptop, radio and complete communications system that will be able to take dispatchers on the road, said the Clark County sheriff. "This is another positive for Clark County," he said. "This makes us Homeland Security-compliant." Should the command center at the Public Safety Building be disabled, the vehicle will allow dispatchers to continue communications during their drive to the center in Catawba, he said. The SUV will also come in handy during emergency situations such as last fall's windstorm, he said.

Source: <http://www.springfieldnewssun.com/news/springfield-news/mobile-911-command-center-set-to-roll-163060.html>

37. *June 14, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Lawmakers want to improve NJ’s storm preparedness.** There have always been lingering concerns over how New Jersey would be able to quickly evacuate large numbers of people during hurricanes or other natural disasters, especially among coastal residents. With that in mind, the New Jersey Assembly may consider legislation this week that supporters say could improve evacuation plans throughout the state. The Assembly Appropriations Committee recently released the measure (A-3786), which could be considered by the whole Assembly on Thursday. The bill calls for changes including having state emergency management officials develop an annual public awareness program to educate residents on evacuation plans. Officials also would help identify critical infrastructure in the state that would require an alternative emergency power generator. Counties would be asked to establish central registries for people with special needs who might need help during an emergency. “We can’t afford to wait until after a disaster strikes to improve our preparedness,” an assemblyman said. “The measures would help streamline emergency operations during a disaster, identify buildings as shelters and critical infrastructure and have specific statewide and coastal evacuation plans at the state, county and local levels.”

Source:

http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/news/state/new_jersey/20090614_ap_lawmakers_wanttoimprovenjsstormpreparedness.html

38. *June 13, Savannah-Chatham Metro Police Department* – (Georgia) **Metro police headquarters shut down due to military ordinance.** Savannah-Chatham Metro Police headquarters was briefly shut down on Saturday due to military ordinance being brought to the building. Around 10:30 Saturday morning, a man brought military ordinance into Metro Police Headquarters. The man thought he was doing the right thing by bringing it to police so it would be properly disposed of. The ordinance was immediately removed from the building and placed in an empty dirt parking-lot across the street from headquarters. A crime scene was established to ensure the safety of the public. Metro Police Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit (EOD) quickly arrived to examine the ordinance. After determining it to be military issue, Metro Police EOD notified the U.S. Army EOD stationed out of Fort Stewart. U.S. Army EOD responded to the scene and collected the ordinance. The Federal Bureau of Investigation requires police departments to notify the military when military ordinance is discovered.

Source:

http://www.wsav.com/sav/news/local/article/metro_police_headquarters_shut_down_du_e_to_military_ordinance/15721/

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Information Technology

39. *June 14, ITWire.com* – (International) **Use of phishing toolkits on the rise.** There has been a huge increase in the use of phishing toolkits, with 42 percent of phishing URLs recently generated using the toolkits, and the emergence of a new trend of phishing attacks towards the popular social networking site, Facebook. Symantec, in its June phishing report, says it observed an increase in URLs using phishing toolkits during

May of 100 percent over the previous month, with a 14 percent decrease in non-English phishing sites compared to February. The security firm also reports that during May, more than 98 Web hosting services were used, which accounted for six percent of all phishing attacks, which was a decrease of five percent from the previous month.

According to the executive editor security response at Symantec, Symantec observed that 58 percent of all attacks were from unique phishing Web sites, which included more than 206 targeted known brands. “The unique attacks decreased by nine percent from the previous month. This was the result of a sharp increase in toolkit activity as the trending of the two is usually inversely correlated.” In relation to the use of toolkits, Symantec says that there was a sudden increase in toolkit attacks during the first week of May, primarily targeting the information services and financial sectors, due primarily to the resurgence in phishers targeting Facebook.

Source: <http://www.itwire.com/content/view/25643/53/>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

40. *June 12, DarkReading* – (International) **Busted: international telephone hacking conspiracy.** An indictment was unsealed on June 12 against three individuals who allegedly hacked into the telephone systems of large corporations and entities in the United States and abroad and sold information about the compromised telephone systems to Pakistani nationals residing in Italy, an Acting U.S. Attorney announced. Italian law enforcement conducted searches of approximately 10 locations in Italy and arrested the financiers of the hacking activity. Those financiers allegedly used the information to transmit over 12 million minutes of telephone calls valued at more than \$55 million over the hacked networks of victim corporations in the United States alone. The investigation has been ongoing since 2006 and relates to conduct ranging from October 2005 through December 2008. As described in the indictment, two persons, residing in Italy, were among the financiers of the hacking and owned and operated call center operations in Italy from which their customers would make calls throughout the world. To increase their profits, they made efforts to incur as little costs as possible in routing their customers’ telephone calls to the intended call-recipient. They recruited the three individuals to hack into the telephone networks of unsuspecting large corporations and entities so that telephone calls from the call centers could be transmitted over the hacked networks. To accomplish their mission, the hackers gained an intimate familiarity with the programming of the public branch exchange (PBX) telephone systems. As the hackers dialed into the systems, they were able to identify the type of PBX system by the prompts and were thereby able to begin a process, known as a brute force attack, by which they sought to attack vulnerable points of the PBX systems.

Often, the vulnerable points consisted of telephone extensions with default passwords still in place. AT&T was not hacked but was among the companies that carried the long-distance calls. In addition to the conspiracy count, each of the defendants is charged with two counts of unauthorized access to a computer system for purposes of committing fraud, and with the possession of unauthorized access devices, including passcodes to U.S. telephone systems.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/attacks/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=217801056&subSection=Attacks/breaches>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

41. *June 12, WBOC 16 Salisbury* – (Maryland) **O.C. hotel evacuated due to high levels of carbon monoxide.** Authorities say six people were taken to the hospital and their hotel evacuated after high levels of carbon monoxide were detected at the El Capitan hotel in Ocean City, Maryland the night of June 11. Ocean City police say that at around 9:40 p.m. they received a call for six ill people in a room at the El Capitan hotel. According to investigators, upon arrival, Ocean City EMS personnel detected high levels of carbon monoxide in the building and immediately requested additional safety units, including police and fire services. Police say the family of six, which initiated the call, was transported to Atlantic General Hospital in Berlin. They say the family is expected to be OK. Police and fire department personnel conducted a search through each unit of the hotel to ensure that all patrons were evacuated safely. The source of the carbon monoxide is being investigated by the Ocean City Police Department and the Ocean City Fire Marshal's Office. The hotel's occupants were allowed to return to the building a couple hours after the incident.

Source: http://www.wboc.com/Global/story.asp?S=10520793&nav=menu222_2

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

42. *June 14, Cedar Rapids Gazette* – (Iowa) **1967 study had flood prediction right on target.** Despite the belief by many that a flood of such magnitude was not possible, the June 2008 flood in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, had been predicted by the Army Corps of Engineers — 41 years before it happened. The Corps' report with that dire prediction was released in October 1967. In the Corps' terms, the Flood of 2008 was a "standard project flood ... produced by the most severe combination of meteorological and hydrological conditions that are considered reasonably characteristic of the drainage

basin.” In the case of the Cedar River at Cedar Rapids, the Corps predicted in 1967, such conditions would create a crest “about 12 feet higher than the March 1961 flood.” The March 31, 1961, crest: 19.66 feet. The June 13, 2008, crest: 31.12 feet. The Corps study, prompted by a 1965 Mississippi River flood, was met with disbelief by Cedar Rapids officials, according to a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) flood control engineer. The local response was marginal, and in the case of riverbed excavation, ineffective. Upriver, the reaction was the opposite. Waterloo, acting after major floods in 1961 and 1965, adopted a comprehensive flood-prevention strategy. The city, like Cedar Rapids, commissioned a Corps of Engineers report and used the result to guide a flood-control program launched in 1972 and completed in 1991. Funded with \$43 million in federal aid and \$22 million in local money, the city built 18.2 miles of earthen levee and 1.9 miles of concrete flood wall with gates and storm sewer pumps. Now, Cedar Rapids has ordered its own flood protection study from the Corps. The study will include an analysis, balancing the cost of a protection project against the losses caused by a flood like last year’s — and the one forecast in 1967.

Source:

<http://www.gazetteonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090614/NEWS/706149990/1006>

43. *June 13, Springfield News-Leader* – (Missouri) **River-goers warned to avoid dam area.** Campers and floaters along the Gasconade River are being warned to stay off the river in northern Maries County because a dam could fail. The Missouri State Emergency Management Agency and the Maries County Sheriff’s Department are monitoring the dam on Dudenhoeffer Lake, according to the National Weather Service. If the dam fails as runoff from storms continues, there could be an uncontrolled release of water into the lower Gasconade that would sweep through a forested river valley where the Turkey Hill Ranch Christian Camp is located, according to authorities. Due to the flooding threat, the camp has been evacuated and campers, floaters, and hikers are being warned to go to higher ground until the dam can be repaired.
Source: <http://www.news-leader.com/article/20090613/NEWS01/906130356/River-goers+warned+to+avoid+dam+area>
44. *June 12, Associated Press* – (National) **Locations of high-risk coal ash sites kept secret.** The Presidential Administration has decided to keep secret the locations of nearly four dozen coal ash storage sites that pose a threat to people living nearby. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) classified the 44 sites as potential hazards to communities while investigating storage of coal ash waste after a spill at a Tennessee power plant in December 2008. The classification means the waste sites could cause death and significant property damage if an event such as a storm, a terrorist attack, or a structural failure caused them to spill into surrounding communities. The sites have existed for years with little or no federal regulation. The Army Corps of Engineers in a letter dated June 4 told the EPA and the Federal Emergency Management Agency that the public should not be alerted to the whereabouts of the sites because it would compromise national security. “Uncontrolled or unrestricted release (of the information) may pose a security risk to projects or communities by increasing its attractiveness as a potential target,” the Army Corps’ director of civil works wrote in a letter obtained by

the Associated Press. A senator from California, in a press conference on June 12, questioned why coal ash storage ponds are not treated like other hazardous waste sites. For instance, the EPA readily discloses the location of Superfund hazardous waste sites and also annually reports pollution released by chemical facilities and other factories in neighborhoods. On December 22, 2008, more than 5 million cubic yards of ash and sludge poured out of a storage pond after an earth dike failed at a power plant near Kingston, Tennessee. The grayish, toxic muck covered 300 acres and destroyed or damaged 40 homes.

Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gnABpfze_hFCvi7vU2txNwQB_BgqwD98P9PG01

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